

State Press Flashlights.

The Salem Commercial Club has 45 doctors among its members and should be able to get through the winter without any serious illness, especially with the help of 10 druggists. How many of these professional men can the McMinnville club boast of?—News Reporter.

A man may be rich financially and a hobo by nature; a girl may be homely and be the reigning queen of her set both at the same time; a fellow may be a polished and refined failure in the business world, or rich and influential with a bad reputation. But a good steady job, high minded companions after business hours, and a pretty sweetheart who is never frivolous, rarely fail to develop the best in man.—Seaside Signal.

Whatever may be said of Ford's peace party trip, it is an unparalleled venture. Regardless of failure or success, the results of the expedition whether triumphant, grave or gay will be watched with keen interest. This mission of Ford's to the battle-torn nations of Europe is the most talked of topic among Americans. Publicists, statesmen, editors and ministers have given their views on Ford's extraordinary mission, but have said but little upon it. Some have said Ford is a "millionaire fool" others have claimed it was a gigantic advertising scheme.—News Reporter.

Here is a trio of statements by Rabbi Wise made in a recent speech in Portland, which shows that the Quakers and Jews are about of one mind: "The way to insure for war is to prepare for it—and we will have it. If President Wilson had made his war speech two years ago he would have been declared crazy. We have one hundred years of peace with Canada because we have had no war vessels on the Great Lakes, no fortifications, no thoughts of war. We have no war with the Latin-American countries and will never have another so long as we do not arrange for it."—Telephone Register.

If you feel grouchy and out of sorts and the world seems warped and twisted from all viewpoints, look in the glass. Your own reflection will set you thinking and wondering if perhaps it is not you instead of the world that is warped. When something goes wrong and you feel like cussing or kicking the cat there is nothing quite so efficacious as looking in a glass. You see yourself as you are and not as perhaps you think you are. All of your hard lines and your ill humor are reflected by the faithful glass and the moment a fleeting smile begins to creep over your face the glass will magnify it and glorify it until in time you will be smiling from the pure joy of living—Look in the glass.—Lone Journal.

Window cards in Hillsboro this week announce that a Roseburg gentleman will address taxpayers of the cause of high taxation, "Extravagance, Waste, Graft." Now, The Independent respectfully submits that when a gentleman living some hundreds of miles away and who only visits the county once a year when his profession demands, by inference declared that the county is in the hands of grafters, he is to say the least, going some. Discussion of whether or not there is waste or extravagance is legitimate, even if the speaker is not in a position to know whereof he speaks, but when a man even hints at graft he should be in a position to back up his statement with conclusive facts.—Hillsboro Independent.

Cook County can do no better thing for the people at this time than to select a competent road builder to take charge of road maintenance and construction. There should be no question about the ability of applicants and in the choosing, personal preference should never be entertained. All applicants be equal, we urge the appointment of an out-of-Cook County man, for we believe better results will be had from an applicant who comes to the county fresh-handed and with no preferences regarding the improvement of any particular locality. There are many good men in the state who can be had, and if the commissioners are satisfied that a really competent man cannot be hired for \$1,800 a year, then we say they will be fully justified in paying as much more as the applicant demands. But remember, the people are going to demand results and that is the only side which will be aired whether he meets with failure or success.—Cooks Bay Harbor.

Certain politicians, for personal and party ends, are preaching that the period of financial depression is past and that prosperity, with a big P, is already with us. They point to the re-

port of our enormous export trade and the activity of our factories as an evidence that the fickle jade has again taken up her permanent residence "in our midst." They say that Europe is borrowing money from this country as never before and that our railroad yards and docks are congested with goods for foreign shipment such as was never before seen. But they are very careful to avoid a suggestion that all this is only temporary and wholly dependent upon the European war. They fail to mention that when the war ceases this so-called prosperity will cease and leave nothing behind it and they fail to recognize the fact that the railroads and other great corporate activities are neither borrowing money or extending their operations, by either building new lines or improving their present properties.—Rural Spirit.

About the cussedest and crustiest cuss that the Rev. G. H. Bennett, and a good many others ever saw, was that particular one that preceded a recent funeral on the road to the cemetery. There was more than one who wished that the man in the light spring buggy ahead was consigned to a hole in the ground, but that did not take him from the road to allow the saddened procession to pass. The trouble was that the man ahead kept in the center of the road and ambled along at an unusually easy speed. It is the opinion of those who tried in vain to get the man to allow the funeral procession to pass that he was somewhat jealous of the automobiles that made the mourners' carriages. Honking of horns and personal pleas were of no avail, the road hog refused to hudge and the entire procession finally had to pass round his spring wagon. The woman behind him must have thought a deal of her companion for his actions. If there isn't a law against hogging the road there should be, say those who suffered from one person's obstinacy, and there should also be a law against men with so little principle as to hold up a funeral procession.—Polk County Observer.

A Duchess Who is Queen.

Duchess Skylark Ormsby is only a cow, but amongst cows she is a queen because she is the best butter-producer in the world. In a test recently concluded at Minnesota Agricultural College, Duchess Skylark Ormsby produced 27,761.07 pounds of milk in 365 consecutive days. This was nearly fourteen tons, or twenty-three times her own weight. The butter fat contained in the milk weighed 1205.09 pounds, average percentage of 4.32.

Good butter, which is about 85 per cent butter fat, is worth, say, 35 cents a pound. Duchess Skylark Ormsby then produced about \$500 worth in a year. Besides this she gave her owner a calf, gallons and gallons of skim milk, buttermilk and other by-products the value of which must have been considerable. What a boon such a cow to any of the many widows who live in the house down the lane!

The retiring butter queen was Finnerde Pride Johanne Rue, whose butter record was less by 28.62 pounds than that of the Duchess, but whose milk production was 642 pounds more. The Duchess gave a little less milk, but it was richer, and as a result she gave more butter. That is the standard by which cows are estimated by good dairymen.

The record is interesting because it represents an effort of science to contribute to the world's peace and plenty. The butter queen was not an accident. She is an achievement, and it is difficult to estimate the increasing efficiency of cows as they shall be reproduced from her kind. Because butter is so universally a commodity, so common that it is conspicuous only when it is lacking from the table, we are apt that behind the vast production yearly there is a story of endeavor which has run through the ages.

Loyalty Measured With a Hyphen.

Among the habits which the older generation has broken itself of and which the new has not contracted is that of reading the President's message. Successive years of national repose agitated by nothing more serious than our quadrennial conflicts at the polls, have giving to the message a dignified dullness that the public has warmly praised and sedulously avoided.

But it has been the fortune of President Wilson to be able to write of other things than tariffs, bookworms, politics, and pellagra; and his messages have had in interest with the most thrilling of our best sellers. His latest communication to the country is a momentous message which, committing the United States to a policy of preparedness, gives notice to the world that while we shall refrain from giving offense to any peace-minded nation, we shall be able to defend ourselves against all predatory peoples.

On the subject of the war that the Kaiser has carried to America, the President speaks in clear and unmistakable language, which is worthy the earnest attention of all native Americans and the deep study of those naturalized citizens who measure their loyalty to this country with a hyphen. On this, the President says:

"I am sorry to say that the gravest threats against our national peace and safety have been uttered within our own borders. There are citizens of the United States, I blush to admit, born under other flags but welcomed under our generous naturalization laws to the freedom and opportunity of America, who have poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of National life, who have sought to bring the authority and good name of our government into contempt, to destroy our industries, however they thought it effective for their vindictive purpose to strike at them, and to debase our policies to the uses of foreign intrigue. Their number is not great as compared with the whole number of those sturdy hosts by which our nation has been enriched in recent generations out of virile foreign stocks; but it is great enough to have brought deep disgrace upon us and to have made it necessary that we should promptly make use of processes of law by which we may be purged of their corrupt distempers. America never witnessed anything like this before. It never dreamed it possible that men sworn into its own citizenship, men drawn out of great free stocks such as supplied some of the best and strongest elements of that little, but how heroic nation that in high day of old staked its very life to free itself from every entanglement that had darkened the fortunes of the older nations and set up new standards here—that men of such origins and such free choices of allegiance would ever turn in malign reaction against the Government and people who had welcomed and nurtured them and seek to make this proud country once more a hotbed of European passion.

A little while ago such a thing would have seemed incredible. Because it was incredible, we made no preparation for it. We would have been almost ashamed to prepare for it, as if we were suspicious of ourselves, our own comrades and neighbors! But the ugly and incredible thing has actually come about, and we are without adequate Federal laws to deal with it. I urge you to enact such laws at the earliest possible moment, and feel that in doing so I am urging you to do nothing less than save the honor and self-respect of the Nation. Such creatures of passion, disloyalty, and anarchy must be crushed out. They are not many, but they are infinitely malignant, and the hand of our power should hover over them at once. They have formed plots to destroy property, they have entered into conspiracies against the neutrality of the government, they have sought to pry into every confidential transaction of the Government in order to serve interests alien to our own. It is possible to deal with these things very effectively. I need not suggest the terms in which they may be dealt with."—The Spectator.

The Open Door.

We say it again, and with emphasis the doors of America are open to foreign commerce, and when the war is over and the wheels of industry in Europe are again turning to their full capacity of production, there will be nothing to prevent the United States from becoming the dumping ground for the goods of the great nations at war, unless the vicious tariff system now in force is repealed and protection restored. It is not necessary to an open door that all imports be put upon the free list. The present administration has gone far in that respect and doubtless would go further were it not for the requirements of revenue but there still remains a respectable number of products upon which duties are payable. The moment, however, that the tariff rates are lowered below the point of protection they cease to be a barrier to a check to Europe and become, to the contrary an invitation to the outlander to come in and welcome. That is the effect and the purpose of the Underwood tariff act, and the fact that we are now reaping all the evil consequences of that measure is due to the temporary suppression of the manufacturing industries of Europe.

When the war is over and the accidental protection from foreign manufacturers that the conflict has given us ceases to exist, the competition for American trade will be active and ruthless. The purchasing power of the markets of Europe will be greatly decreased. America, bulging with gold, will be the world's oyster, not to be opened with a Pistoian sword, for it is already open. The salesmen of Germany and France, and of every other one of the countries that have goods to sell will cross the seas in numbers, and the present tariff will not keep them from making prices that American producers cannot meet immediately after the war ends, for it will take some time to restore industrial activities in Europe, but it will come, unless the people of America take steps to prevent the attack upon our trade and our riches.—Globe Democrat.

Hush little barroom, Don't you cry! You'll be a drug store By and by.

No Prospect of Economy.

The submission of estimates by the various departments of the Federal Government encourages no hope of "returns to that simplicity and economy which beset the Democratic government," which the Baltimore platform pledged. Every department wants more money than was appropriated for 1916, although after the deficiency appropriations made necessary by the failure of the last Congress to pass fifteen of the great supply bills are voted, the expenditures for the year 1915 and 1916 will exceed any in the history of the government, being \$177,000,000 more than those of the last Republican Congress whose "profligate waste of money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation" was denounced by the Baltimore platform and by every Democrat of low or high degree throughout the United States in the campaign of 1912. The estimate for 1917 exceeds that of any year except 1865.

The statement that the increase "is almost wholly due to the administration plans for military preparedness" is not true. The net military increase is but \$25,000,000 and the net naval increase but \$70,000,000. This constitutes only \$95,000,000 of the \$170,000,000 increase over the extravagant appropriation for 1916. Furthermore, the estimates for some purposes are too low. The postal estimate for 1917 is \$1,000,000 less than expenditures for 1916, as reported by the Treasury Department. But then the postmaster general's estimate is always several millions below the appropriation and there is usually an additional deficiency to be cared for. The legislative estimate is but little over half that for last year. The few decreases are more than balanced by increases everywhere else. The Sixty-fourth will beyond question be known as the most expensive Congress in the history of the government.

Conquered Distances.

California is justly proud of the expedition that has run its course through the most of the year, and now passes into history as one of the notable successes of its kind. It was promulgated in many ways, the box office test included. A few of the agents are still alive, contemporaries of some hundreds of surviving soldiers of the war with Mexico. These venerated citizens remember the rush to California following the discovery of gold in 1848, and the difficulties in reaching the alluring land of treasure in those days. A journey by ship around Cape Horn took six months, one across the plains was more hazardous and might be longer. A route was opened through a jungle road at the Panama Isthmus, and at length a stage line was organized that made a hundred miles a day. A pony express helped with the mails, but it was not until the first overland railroad was completed, in 1869, that the journey was cut down to the modern length. A visitor to the fair who could personally recall the early days marvels most at the annihilation of distances during the last forty years.

It requires national courage to acquire the vast area covered by the Louisiana Purchase, and later, to add California to our domain, making it interoceanic in the most expansive sense of the word. Where the gold hunter of the 50s crossed the isthmus on a mule, dreading the deadly fevers of the region before he could span the fifty miles, is now the Panama Canal, for which the people of the United States have paid \$350,000,000, with nobody to grumble at or regret the cost. The far-sighted genius of the American people ordained the canal. It is their way to regain distance and save time in transit wherever it can be done. In the heyday of its placer mines California produced \$65,000,000 gold in one year. Now mining is a side feature in the state, but the country does not suffer for fresh gold, of which our share now is \$100,000,000 annually.

Child Welfare.

The United States Department of Labor through its Children's Bureau, is going to attempt throughout the United States the celebration of "Baby Week" and set aside March 4 to March 11 to be known as "Baby Week" says the Oregon State Board of Health. This is not to be a baby show where babies are brought to some cold storage room to be striped naked and viewed by a committee consisting of old maids and childless divorcees, but a sane, sensible effort will be made to instruct the whole people as to the possibilities of proper child hygiene. Beginning Sunday, March 4, they will ask that sermons dealing especially with the topic be delivered in all the churches of the United States. Far too frequently the biblical text "Suffer little children to come unto me for such is the kingdom of heaven" is preached at the funeral of the child whose life was needlessly sacrificed to insanitary conditions, and with our present knowledge of the cause of infant mortality, we now know that "God's will" has too often been simply an excuse for man's carelessness. Public meetings will be attempted in all of the cities, addresses, papers, lectures, slides, exhibitions, etc., giving information not only as to the cause of untimely deaths but giving what is more important, literature and educational material for attaining longer and better lives. The most potent factor in education at the present time, the press, will be asked to know nothing every mother ought to know. Reaching as newspapers do, in some language, practically every home in the United States, no other single factor can so materially assist. In the larger cities, the billboards will be called into use and large posters will be furnished that will be, to say the least, attractive and educational, and will avoid the criticism of shocking the community that has too frequently been aimed at the poster dealing with tuberculosis, and which are sure to be a relief to the aesthete whose senses are continually offended by some of the glaring advertisements

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 - FOR THE BOY OR GIRL:**
A splendid Line of Toys and Presents and Infants' Goods.
 - Christmas Candies & Nuts.**
Remember that our grocery shelves are laden with good things for the table. Plan your menus from our stock.
Special size Young American Cheese for the Holiday Trade. Send one to your friend.
- H. MASON & CO.,**
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seen thereon at the present time. It is planned to have this not a spasmodic affair and a follow-up campaign will immediately ensue.

The popular belief that infant mortality is greater in our cities than in the rural communities is not true, rather it is just the opposite. Save for the crowded homes of a very few large cities, the city baby has a better chance of living than does the rural one. The reasons are very manifest. First and probably most important is the cheapness and ease with which ice can be procured; our improved street preclude storm of dust, and a better milk supply can be obtained, while in the rural communities ice is more difficult to procure, dust is everywhere, bathing facilities are usually lacking and diarrhoea and enteritis, the murderers of children, have greater way.

This campaign will attempt to show that this is not necessary. In rural communities where ice cannot be obtained, with a very little expenditure of money, an abundant supply of good water can, and this can be used in cooling a storeroom or a refrigerator almost as satisfactorily as ice. The roads can be oiled to keep down the storms of dust, lawns can be kept fresh and green just as well as in the city and the removal of refuse and the building of the house a sufficient distance from the barn will in like manner preclude flies. These are but a few of the lessons baby week will attempt to teach. No movement has ever been launched has been filled with greater possibilities and the boards of health of every city and state in the Union should lend their earnest co-operation.

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